

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

**Applicant: Salter et al.  
U.S. Serial No. 10/578,935**

**Examiner: Gitomer, Ralph  
Art Unit: 1651**

**Title: INHIBITION ASSAY METHOD AND DEVICE FOR DETECTION OF  
ANTIBIOTICS**

**Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450**

Request for Continued Examination

Preliminary Amendment  
INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

In response to the Office's Final Office Action, dated December 11, 2009, in Serial Number 10/578,935, filed May 9, 2006, the Applicant respectfully submits the enclosed Request for Continued Examination. The Request Fee and late response fee (6<sup>th</sup> month) is included herewith. If any additional fees for the accompanying response are required, Applicant requests that this be a Petition thereof. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account 50-3152.

## II. Preliminary Amendment

Prior to examination, kindly amend the above-captioned application as discussed below.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 14 of this paper.